

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 SS-15 SIG-01 CIAE-00
DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00
PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 DHA-05
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DRAFTED BY IO:GBHELMAN:WES
APPROVED BY AF: MR. EDMUNDSON
S/S:TMARTIN

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA NIACT IMMEDIATE
INFO USMISSION USUN NY
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 205689

FOR MC HENRY

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS:PDEV, US, UK, SF,WA

SUBJECT: NAMIBIA: FUTHER TALKS WITH SAG

REF: LUSAKA 2574

1. WE ARE SOMEWHAT SURPRIZED AT OWEN'S REPORT THAT
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WALDHEIM IS WILLING TO SEND AN ENVOY TO NAMIBIA IN
ADVANCE OF SECURITY COUNCIL AUTHORIZATION. AS YOU
OBSERVED, THAT IS NOT CHARACTERISTIC OF WALDHEIM, BUT,
IF ACCURATE, WE CAN ONLY ASSUME THAT WALDHEIM IN SOME
FASHION HAS CHECKED IDEA IN ADVANCE WITH AFRICANS.

2. YOU CORRECTLY CITE SOME OF THE DANGERS IN SUCH A

MOVE. IT MIGHT APPEAR TO LEGITIMIZE FULL SPEED PURSUIT OF POLITICAL PROCESS WHICH ADMINISTRATOR GENERALS INSTALLATION WILL INAUGURATE. AT THE SAME TIME, WE SUSPECT THAT A VISIT BY WALDHEIM'S REPRESENTATIVE AND EVEN THE ASSIGNMENT ON TDY OF SEVERAL LOWER LEVEL OFFICIALS TO WINDHOEK CAN BE PRESENTED AS A PRELUDE TO A FULL SCALE UN OPERATION AND, INDEED, AS INTENDED TO HELP PREPARE THE TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR SUCH AN OPERATION.

3. WE CAN SEE MERIT, ACCORDINGLY, IN OWEN AND YOU INFORMLY SOUNDING OUT BOTHA, MAKING CLEAR THAT THE IDEA IS EXPLORATORY, DESIGNED TO MAINTAIN MOMENTUM OF NEGOTIATIONS, BUT PUT FORWARD WITHOUT CONTACT GROUPS, WALDHEIM'S, OR SWAPO'S AUTHORIZATION. IF BOTHA BELIEVES IT A GOOD IDEA, OWEN MIGHT SAY HE WILL UNDERTAKE TO EXPLORE IT FURTHER, SUGGESTING THAT SYG REP'S MISSION WOULD BE THE PRELUDE TO, AND BY NO MEANS A SUBSTITUTE FOR, A MUCH LARGER UN PRESENCE.

4. ADDITIONALLY, IF OWEN IS WILLING TO RAISE THIS ISSUE, WE HOPE HE WILL RECONSIDER HIS VIEWS ON RAISING WITH THE SAG THE QUESTION OF ETHNIC BATTALIONS. HE WILL HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS WITH SCOTT AND BOWDLER LATTER'S ASSESSMENT THAT IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO BRING UP THE MATTER WITH THE SAG. THUS, OWEN MIGHT

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IDENTIFY QUESTION OF ETHNIC BATTALIONS, TOGETHER WITH SAG PLANNING ON PHASED WITHDRAWAL, AS PRINCIPAL BARRIERS

TO RAPID PROGRESS IN NAMIBIA TALKS.
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 28-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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